

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

IAN A. WOODS,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF NEVADA et al.,

Defendants.

2:16-cv-01169-GMN-PAL

**ORDER**

This action is a *pro se* civil rights complaint filed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 by a former state prisoner. On January 11, 2017, this Court issued an order denying the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for prisoners as moot. (ECF No. 3 at 1). The Court directed Plaintiff to file fully complete application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing fee of \$400.00 within thirty (30) days from the date of that order. (*Id.* at 2). The thirty-day period has now expired, and Plaintiff has not filed an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners, paid the full filing fee, or otherwise responded to the Court's order.

District courts have the inherent power to control their dockets and "[i]n the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions including, where appropriate . . . dismissal" of a case. *Thompson v. Hous. Auth. of City of Los Angeles*, 782 F.2d 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party's failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules. See *Ghazali v. Moran*, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995) (dismissal for noncompliance with local rule); *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); *Carey v. King*, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-41 (9th Cir. 1988) (dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring *pro se* plaintiffs to keep court apprised of

1 address); *Malone v. U.S. Postal Service*, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir. 1987) (dismissal for  
2 failure to comply with court order); *Henderson v. Duncan*, 779 F.2d 1421, 1424 (9th Cir. 1986)  
3 (dismissal for lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local rules).

4 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey a  
5 court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors: (1)  
6 the public's interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court's need to manage its  
7 docket; (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring disposition of  
8 cases on their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives. *Thompson*, 782 F.2d  
9 at 831; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 130; *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-  
10 61; *Ghazali*, 46 F.3d at 53.

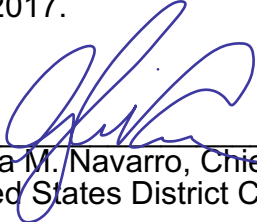
11 In the instant case, the Court finds that the first two factors, the public's interest in  
12 expeditiously resolving this litigation and the Court's interest in managing the docket, weigh  
13 in favor of dismissal. The third factor, risk of prejudice to Defendants, also weighs in favor of  
14 dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of unreasonable delay in  
15 filing a pleading ordered by the court or prosecuting an action. See *Anderson v. Air West*, 542  
16 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir. 1976). The fourth factor – public policy favoring disposition of cases  
17 on their merits – is greatly outweighed by the factors in favor of dismissal discussed herein.  
18 Finally, a court's warning to a party that his failure to obey the court's order will result in  
19 dismissal satisfies the "consideration of alternatives" requirement. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262;  
20 *Malone*, 833 F.2d at 132-33; *Henderson*, 779 F.2d at 1424. The Court's order requiring  
21 Plaintiff to file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing  
22 fee within thirty (30) days expressly stated: "IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, if Plaintiff does  
23 not timely comply with this order, dismissal of this action may result." (ECF No. 3 at 2). Thus,  
24 Plaintiff had adequate warning that dismissal would result from his noncompliance with the  
25 Court's order to file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the  
26 full filing fee within thirty (30) days.

27 It is therefore ordered that this action is dismissed without prejudice based on Plaintiff's  
28 failure to file an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* for non-prisoners or pay the full filing

1 fee in compliance with this Court's January 11, 2017, order.

2 It is further ordered that the Clerk of Court shall enter judgment accordingly.

3  
4 DATED: This 22 day of February, 2017.

5  
6   
7 \_\_\_\_\_  
8 Gloria M. Navarro, Chief Judge  
9 United States District Court  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28